



OFFICE OF SHELBY COUNTY TRUSTEE

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For Immediate Release
Oct. 1, 2012

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RECENT COUNTY TAX SALE GETS INCREASED ATTENTION COUNTY RAISES MORE THAN \$500,000 FROM AUCTION

Shelby County auctioned 46 properties to individual bidders and raised more than \$500,000 at its Sept. 14 tax sale.

The number of registered bidders, number of properties sold to individuals and the final bid price, representing the total of all properties sold, was up dramatically compared to recent tax sales, according to data from the Shelby County Trustee's tax sale department. Tax sales are held by the Shelby County Chancery Court Clerk & Master's office with management support from the Trustee's office.

A total of 85 individuals were registered bidders at the recent sale, said Wendie Blanton, supervisor in the Trustee's tax sale department. That compares to 47 registered bidders at the previous sale in May and 65 a year ago. The number of properties sold to individuals was 46 with a total final bid price of \$544,376.75. That compared to 34 properties sold in May and 28 a year ago. The final bid price was one of the highest final bid prices in several years, Blanton said.

There were 225 properties auctioned Sept. 14, with the majority purchased by Shelby County Government at a cost of \$1.88 million. A number of those properties will eventually be turned over and marketed through the Shelby County Land Bank to help recoup those costs and return them to revenue-producing properties, said Trustee David C. Lenoir.

"Again, I can't stress enough the importance of doing all we can to turn these properties from a liability back into an asset for Shelby County," Lenoir said. "County ownership of property reduces both tax revenue and increases government's cost to maintain this property."

Improved awareness of the county's tax sale process helps increase the number of bidders and, ultimately, can create more interest and drives higher sales, he said. Those who have lost their property through tax sale have one year to redeem the property.

The next Tax Sale is Jan. 9, 2013 in the Commission Chambers at 160 N. Main. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 9:30 a.m., with the sale starting at 10 a.m.

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